



*Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services*

YOUTH COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes **May 21, 2012**

The Youth Commission of the City of San José convened in regular session on May 21, 2012, in the City Council Chambers of San José City Hall at 6:00p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Khan, Peddada, To, Chen, Abad, Dhaliwal, Lim, Forooghi
Absent: Commissioner Yu, Huynh, and Valerio

II. APPROVAL OF MINTUES

Moved: To have the January 23, 2012 meeting minutes approved.
M/S Commissioner Peddada /Commissioner Dhaliwal

Ayes: All

III. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

IV. OPEN FOUUM:

ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

(Information Only)

Commission Chair Khan reported on behalf of Marisa Melo from the Council Liaison Office. The council liaison office is focusing on the budget session. Their priorities are to restore funding for crossing guards at 21 schools, increase library hours, add a burglary subdivision of the police department and secure funding for the S.M.A.R.T Start programs. Nicole Lim, District 9 Youth Commissioner will follow up with these on a later date.

VI. LIAISON REPORTS

(Information Only)

San José Public Library Report

Angie Miraflor from the San Jose Library was not present to report

Senior Commission Report

Vincent Tarpey from the Senior Commission was not present to report

Parks Commission Report

Commissioner Mariam Khan, Liaison to the Parks Commission reported that the Parks commission is focused on the budget session and the community budget priority meetings through out the city. PRNS volunteer coordinator and a Library representative will be recruiting programs where adopt a park program will be initiated. They are looking forward to the Bascom community center, street improvements and better park infrastructure.

VII. EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

Bascom Community Center Letter – Commissioner Dhaliwal read the letter aloud in Brendon Yu’s absence. Letter reads to urge the Council to fund summer programs at the Bascom community center where District 6 kids have not had any community center in a long time. Grammatical edits suggested.

2012-2013 Proposed Budget – Commissioner Khan - Residents opted to restore funding for some community centers now used as re-use sites including Alum Rock (Youth Center), Starbird, Alma, Alviso and Gardner. City will provide 25 hours of programs along with the organizations currently re-using the sites. Youth Commission should make sure the Council follows through on the funding, especially for low-income area community centers such as Alum Rock. In terms of public safety, the budget gives \$500,000 in police funding for high crime activity areas that include gang problems, prostitution and graffiti. Alum Rock in District 5 and Downtown District 3 are hot spots for gang activity, Chair Khan suggests commissioners should advocate for police enforcement in those areas. 21 Crossing Guards are also approved, as well as a La Raza study to create transformative change in the proportion of Latino’s in Juvenile Justice System. The City will be opening 4 libraries in 2013 with funds from general obligation bonds. San Jose Best is given a \$2 million dollar increase to \$4.3 million for gang suppression; Safe Schools Campus initiative will get 4 new positions to help with middle schools. It is noted that the Youth Commission advocated for only high schools last year. Commissioner Khan urges commissioners to create list of “needs” for each district.

VIII. AD HOC WORKING TEAMS REPORTS

(Information Only)

Conference Evaluation Reports – Commissioner Dhaliwal – 90% Very Satisfied Response for Conference Overall

Social Host Ordinance Status Report – Commissioner, Forooghi – Ordinance passed unanimously by City Council. Only questions were “discretion” of the officers and if own “offspring” are under umbrella of “Youth”. Ash Khalra mentioned the Youth Commission should not be combined with other Commissions.

Minimum Wage Increase – Commissioner Peddada – For District 1 YAC a 50/50 split for and against the proposal. Pro argument was higher standard of living for people working at minimum wage. Arguments against were possible negative effects on the small business community. Fewer jobs at a higher wage or more jobs at a lower wage would be the main argument.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

Moved: To approve the District 5 Project Proposal for Peer to Peer Tutoring.
M/S Commissioner Dhaliwal / Commissioner Peddada
Ayes: All

The plan is for every 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at William Shepherd Middle School, targeting middle schools but open to any youth. Goals include 10 students of diverse ages attend, 50% are ESL, helping students in math, science and note taking skills. Based on District 1's YAC Starbird Youth Center tutoring program. Students bring their own supplies, timeline not completely accurate because details are still be worked out. Dhaliwal poses question if second goal of 50% ESL is attainable, Faroogi's suggests sending a letter to ESL teachers in District 5. Definition of "diverse" ages should be considered if middle schools are being targeted.

Moved: Dhaliwal – Deferral of the Approval of Thank You Letters Until June Training.
M/S Commissioner Abad/ Commissioner Dhaliwal

Did not receive letters from To for Ash Kalra, Nicole for Vendors, Peddada for workshop presenters, Khan for College Panelists, Yu and Valerio. Email them to Betty by Tuesday, May 22 by 5:00 PM. They will get approval from Youth Commission at June training.

X. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1, Peddada – Mitty High School, 6 YAC Members attended last YAC meeting. YAC members asked about Commission consolidation. The issue may have been put on back burner due to budget surplus, same with letter to ask council not to consolidate. YAC recruitment has already begun for May, Applications due Tuesday May 29th. Executive board will have applications on Thursday, May 31st and District 1 will know all YAC officers by first week of June. Harker, Mitty, Westmont, Boynton high schools are being targeted for recruitment because of lack of representation. Roundtable with Pete Constant about what is going on with YAC and Constant's council office. Also trying to spread creative writing program to Emily and Max's districts next year, program is open to all districts.

District 2, To – Caroline Davis Intermediate just finished negotiations with principal for a green light to move ahead with the creative writing program on August 30th, 2012, the first day of classes. During Summer D1 YAC will train D2 during summer. May 8th Southside community center had budget meeting, 3 YAC members attended, have yet to brief Commissioner To. June 16th YAC meeting for D2 and will have a college panel open to incoming seniors and juniors about college application process and other college related questions. College prep mentoring program was unofficial last year but will be more "official" this year.

District 4, Chen – Starting creative writing program with good feelings about the opening. No May meeting due to AP exams, hopefully final YAC meeting in June. Spoke with YAC members about the City-Wide position opening.

District 5, Abad – Has not met with YAC in 2 months since no response in communication. Been working on Project Proposal for the Peer to Peer Tutoring.

District 8, Dhaliwal – Had YAC Meeting on May 12th, discussed the Conference, members e-mailed a pro/con list to Rose. Spoke about consolidation, YAC thought the consolidation would be inevitable due to budget. If consolidated, best scenario would be combining with Parks and Recreation programs and commissions.

District 9, Lim – A few prospective YAC members were met at the Youth Conference, will try to set up meeting with them.

District 10, Forooghi – Social Host Ordinance passed, District 10 reporting on it because in 2010 District 10 had forums with Councilwoman Nancy Pile, adults and youth to discuss social host ordinance. Mercury News contacted Layla, Pyle and Gabrielle Antolovich to get quotes for an article on the Ordinance. Education on the ordinance will be crucial and mandatory for YC and other entities to educate the public on it and stop parties involving drinking from happening. Layla opens up her District 10 seat, encouraging YAC members to apply. Application deadlines are June 8th for first cut off date.

City-Wide, Khan – Discussed the Minimum wage with students at her school as well as neighboring schools. Reviewing budget documents, crunch time for budget but Khan will not be able to lead memo, asks other commissioners to take on those responsibilities. Khan stressed to other commissioners to attend as many community budget meetings as possible.

XI INFORMATIONAL INFO

Ashley Costa unable to attend meeting. **Gabrielle Antolovich, Executive Director, Voices United**, Ashley working with CreaTV creating documentary on Social Host Ordinance. Documentary means to show normal people in the community creating public policy. When adults and youth work together, youth tend to not speak as much or feel pressured not to speak so Antolovich wants to show this documentary to as many youth as possible. Antolovich has some suggestions: full half hour of Social Host Ordinance hearing put up on website (Voices United). Voices United can produce a training video on the Social Host ordinance during June Training or other Training. Another video will include community questions to Vietnamese speaking police and doctors to answer questions, but it will be done in both English and Vietnamese. Voices United wants to show the council that Youth Commission is useful, especially Councilman Chu's question of how people will find out about Social Host Ordinance.

Gabrielle Trudeau, WattzOn, Green Energy Match – Outreach Specialist – City of San Jose has hired them to start Green Energy Match (GEM). Residents create account (greenenergymatch.org) and fill out information on home such as type of insulation and link to your PG&E account. Energy savings is meant to be through habit changes. People with a 5% reduction will be given 70% off at local businesses. Another program is to text "Energy" (free of charge) to 68938 so people can get energy saving tips as well as raffle prizes. GEM is meant to help with San Jose's Green Vision goals by reducing per capita energy consumption by 50% by 2022. Also helps with Cool California challenge which is won by reducing impact on climate change. Community Grant aspect is meant to motivate GEM program, each Commissioner can receive \$500 for working on signing up. 1-2 page proposal on how they will sign up 50 residents over the summer, conclude in August. Options include door hangers, flyers, table set up at farmers market. Neighborhoods in pilot program are Willow Glen, Hillview and

Evergreen. City open to suggestions so YC can make suggestions, training is also provided.

Commissioner Khan suggests District 6 Commissioner Yu and District 5 Commissioner Abad as they are a part of the Environmental Ad Hoc.

Mark Park, PRNS, talks about Healthy Initiative for Afterschool programs and the next steps in collaborating with the YC on obesity prevention. Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative has created the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) grant across the country, including San Jose PRNS. Grant must be used by September 2012 and so it will focus on youth programs to help speed up the grant implementation. 1/3 children overweight/obese, 1/2 adults overweight/obese, rate increases to 3/5 adults in lower-income areas. Children in current youth generation will possibly live 15 years shorter life span compared to current adult generation. Maps show a clear relationship with low income areas (South, East San Jose) and areas with high rates of obesity (around 60-70%). New sets of standards, nutrition and activity, that will become standards for city run community centers. This involves procurement in entire PRNS department; no Gatorade, soda, artificial juices. All celebrations will be looked at, like not having 5 pizza parties a month. Physical activity has a goal of 60 minutes of physical activity per day, especially since PE has been cut in many schools. Editing of the Standards by YC and PRNS (by the youth, for the youth) would be the best practice, so YC should give feedback. Visibility of these efforts will be through changes to the standards across the entire city and all PRNS community centers/programs. Needs approval from Youth Commission to become the official standard. This has already been introduced into the PRNS programs. These standards cannot be forced upon organizations at re-use sites, they can only be encouraged as recommended guidelines.

XII STAFF REPORTS

(Information Item)

Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force – Betty Ramirez - Gang violence rising in the City, most recent happened nearby that took the life of 14 year old. As the voice for youth hopefully this will make the YC stand up and say enough is enough.

SJUS Meeting Report – Betty Ramirez – SJUS is no longer accepting students with GPA's lower than 2.6, which is making the Hispanic community upset because SJSU was a major gateway for Hispanics to attend a four-year university. More Hispanic students means more Federal funding, but students are not declaring their ethnicities. SJSU wants more Hispanic youth to apply, but unfortunately many do not meet the GPA requirements. YAC's should become more involved in this issue, at least in discussion.

Commission Vacancies – Betty Ramirez - District 1, 2, 8, 10 and City-Wide. Just recently got news that District 7 Commissioner Huynh will be stepping down, along with District 3 commissioner Valerio as her attendance has become an issue. Seven open seats now exist and should hopefully be filled for June 8th training to see how normal training sessions are conducted; this also still leaves a one week window to have them appointed in June before the recess. If not then they will be introduced at the August meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

May 21st, 2012 at 7:29PM.